

In the Claims:

Claims Cancel Claims 1-72.

Add new claim 73.

5

73(new claim) A communication interface comprising n data lanes, said interface sequentially transmitting a header distributed across a plurality of said data lanes, a variable amount of payload data distributed across a

10 plurality of said n data lanes;

said header includes transmitting a START symbol on first said data lane, and the transmission of said payload data is followed by an END symbol on at least one said data lane;

15 said payload data includes transmitting data across said n data lanes up to data lane m, where $m \leq n$;

and $n > 1$.